

Julianne Woodside
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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I use a "competitive provider" and have for years. I use them at my residence because they are competitive - ie., they provide my service for (much) less and in a better way than I could get from the larger companies. This matters to me since I am on a fixed income and would have no internet service if I couldn't have it at a price I can pay.

I would be affected, as would this service-oriented provider I use, and all the people they provide and all the people they employ. Contrary to the self-serving statement in the petition by USTelecom, we do exist and we do rely on the regulations they seek to dismantle.

I urge you to deny their petition!

I was alerted to this issue by my carrier, Sonic. They wrote: "Sonic, other carriers, and a full economic study all disagree with USTelecom on this key point.... Sonic ... members would be "materially affected." In fact, those effects would be profound; without access to UNE services, Sonic wouldnt have been able to connect consumers while we build our fiber networks, nor fund the construction of our fiber networks. And once fiber networks are built, UNEs are still used they connect from city to city and are the key backhaul for all of our fiber networks. "

I was not able to afford internet or landline service without Sonic, and I would lose it again were Sonic forced out of business. Please deny the USTelecom bid to have you dismantle their competitors for them.

Sincerely,

Julianne Woodside